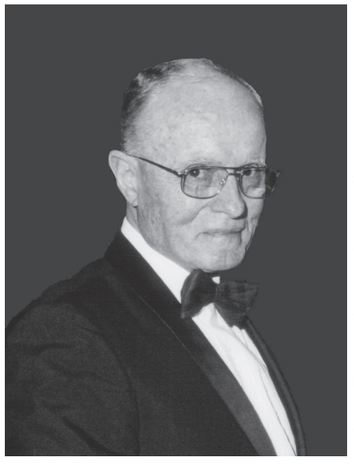
WE BEAT THE 'Old Enemy'

While Australia's cricketers were failing to regain the Ashes, it was left to the WA Media football team to restore some balance with a victory over the "Old Enemy" last December. In a contest which was staged to preserve a century-plus tradition, the WA Media — representing the Football Hall of Fame — ground out a hard-fought 4-2 triumph over England, which was made up of members of the visiting English Ashes Cricket Media. The Poms put away their pens — or more appropriately laptops — and took time out from reporting on the Ashes tour to don their football boots at nib Stadium. It was the continuation of a challenge game that had started way back in 1902 when the English Cricket team — at that stage on their way back to the Old Dart after the Ashes tour — agreed to meet the WA State team in a football tussle at Fremantle Oval. Those were the days when a sportsman's prowess could reach into more than one first-class arena. It was WA's first representative game, but the visitors won 4-0 — and it was later agreed to meet regularly at football when England travelled Down Under to play cricket. The contest wasn't maintained after the Second World War, but the Football Hall of Fame — thanks largely to the efforts of Committee member Richard Kreider — revived the tradition in 2002, this time with the media taking the field. England won 2-1 — with former fast bowler Angus Fraser getting the winner — but WA gained revenge in 2006 with a 6-4 victory in a thriller. WA's Sporting Media then made it back-to-back triumphs in 2010 in a keenly-contested encounter. The Football Hall of Fame is grateful for the generous support of Football West, Allia Venue Management, Craig Hollingsworth of BGC and Donald Murray for helping to stage the game. Former Perth Glory coach Gary Marocchi took the reins of the WA team, for whom goalkeeper Ashley Morrison was named man of the match. The WA side was presented with a trophy by Hall of Fame Patron Julian Burt. English captain Dean Wilson, of the Daily Mirror, said: "We are grateful to help keep the tradition going. It was privilege to play at such a fine stadium and to enjoy such great hospitality." The local side was: Ashley Morrison (Radio 990AM, Foxtel), Julian Burt (Hall of Fame), Gareth Morgan (Perth Glory website and Sporting Bet), Howard Gretton (Channel 7), Ceasar Aquino (Kelme), Steve Nelkovski (Perth Glory, Radio 6PR), Brett Bonnetti (Radio 6PR), Ben Somerford (British Football Week), Bobby Despotovski (Radio 6PR), Calum O'Connell (Radio 990AM), John O'Connell (Radio 990AM), Clint Thomas (ABC). English Cricket Media: Dean Wilson (Daily Mirror), Paul Newman (Daily Mail), Lawrence Booth (Daily Mail), Barney Douglas (ECB), Tom Collomosse (Evening Standard), James Masters (Daily Star), Peter Hayter (Mail on Sunday), Mark Pougatch (BBC), Sam Peters (News of the World), Sam Collins (Wisden), Paul King (Sky Sports), James Lawson (Sky Sports), Robin Reeve (Sky Sports), Graeme Brown (Sky Sports), Tom Fordyce (BBC). Plus — Tom Shaw (Getty Images), Gareth Copley(PA), Andrew Miller (Crickinfo), Ollie Broom (Cycling to Ashes), Phil Brown (ECB).



WA's Frank Miller a Life Member

Former Hall of Fame Committee member Frank Miller has been made a Life Member of the Football Media Association (Australia). Frank, now retired from the Committee, is considered to be WA's foremost multi-media football journalist, having worked in newspapers, radio and television for over 30 years. Born in Fortrose, Scotland, in 1929, he moved to Perth in 1947 and became the soccer writer of The West Australian — writing under the name of Spot Kick — in 1950. He also wrote a column for the Weekend News under the name Scotia, and then wrote under his own name with the Daily News from 1961 until 1972 and had stints as a TV commentator with the ABC and Channel 9. The supremely knowledgeable Frank was a member of the inaugural Committee of the Football Hall of Fame in 1996 — and he was inducted into the Hall of Recognition in 2002 as a reward for decades of superb endeavour and dedication to the game in WA. Frank joins some distinguished company in being elected a Life Member of the Sydney-based Football Media Association. Others to have received the honour include Les Murray, Tom Anderson, Peter Desira, David Jack, Lawrie Schwab, Ted Simmons and John Taylor. Frank is the first West Australian to be saluted by the FMA for media services to football.

• Have you got a new email or has your home address changed? Hall of Fame members are asked to please inform the Committee of any changes so we can update you on a regular basis.

Football Hall of Fame Western Australia

THE FAME GAME

(The official newsletter of the Football Hall of Fame)

Issue 8 (Autumn 2011)

NEXT INDUCTION NIGHT

The next inductions into the Football Hall of Fame Western Australia will take place on November 12, 2011 at the Novotel Langley Hotel in Perth. On what promises to be a night of extraordinary celebration, there will be new intakes into the Hall of Champions, the Hall of Merit for Players and the Hall of Recognition. Indications after early research by the Hall of Fame Historical Committee suggest that several big names will be honoured on the night. But the Committee also welcomes suggestions by readers of The Fame Game regarding possible inductees, who please be aware must measure up to a tough criteria before they can become eligible to join the elite of the sport in WA as a member of the Hall of Fame. Male and female nominees must have achieved a high standard of excellence either as players, as coaches, as administrators, as referees or have contributed significantly to the game in WA in another capacity. The Committee reserves the right to make a final decision on all nominees. You can lodge your choice with any member of the Committee, giving as much detail as possible on the nominee plus contact telephone numbers. Readers of The Fame Game are also welcome to attend the gala event, which will include pre-function refreshments, a lavish three-course meal and all drinks, plus entertainment and a free collectors-item programme. The cost will be $170 per person — but members of the Hall of Fame will receive a $30 discount. Tickets can be obtained by contacting Hall of Fame Committee Treasurer Bob Brown (copbrown@inet.net.au) or Committee Secretary Barbara Gibson (9526 0330). This will be the fifth Hall of Fame WA Induction function and promises to be just as special, and memorable, as the previous events. Tickets are always in heavy demand, so get in early. WA has been the trailblazer in Hall of Fame functions. We initially made history by becoming the first State to establish a Football Hall of Fame in 1996 — and even beat the national body by three years in setting up such an event. There were subsequent inductions conducted in WA in 2002, 2005 and 2008. At the 2008 ceremony the Hall of Champions, which honours the elite performers of the game, welcomed 11 new members — history-making twins Gareth and Craig Naven, Ronnie Campbell, Luciana Di Ienno, Alistair Edwards, Tommy Maras, Shaun Murphy, Norrie Sutton, Tracey Wheeler, Teresa White and Robbie Zabica. The Hall of Merit for Players was introduced for the first time in 2008 when the new category embraced seven trailblazers. The Hall of Recognition, which salutes the achievements of coaches, administrators, referees and others, handed out awards to 11 newcomers in 2008. The 2008 intake brought the number who have so far been embraced by the Football Hall of Fame WA to 123 — all special, with more to follow in November.

JOHN MEETS THE GREATS

Hall of Fame Committee member John O'Connell met two of the greats of the game in Singapore in March — Pele and Eric Cantona.

Former Brazilian superstar Pele and Manchester United legend Cantona were on an Asian tour to promote the re-launch of the New York Cosmos club. Pele played 64 games for the Cosmos between 1975 and 1977. The club folded in 1985 but has been revived this year with Pele as Honorary President and Cantona as Football Director. The Cosmos will focus initially on promoting junior football and will play exhibition games around the world before attempting to join the US Major League Soccer. "Both were terrific, very approachable and good fun," said John, who landed a coup when Pele signed his T-shirt. Definitely one to treasure.

STAN THE TOP MAN

Stan Lazaridis, considered by many to be WA's greatest ever footballer, is the latest West Australian to be included in the Football Federation Australia Hall of Fame. The 38-year-old was inducted in December, 2010, at a ceremony in Sydney. "It's an incredible feeling and part of me isn't sure I'm worthy of the accolade," said Perth-born Stan who made 72 appearances for Australia, including 60 'A' internationals — the most national caps by a West Australian. "I love the game and I gave everything to the game and my country." Stan started his senior career as a leggy left-winger with Kingsway Olympic when he was 16, and went on to play for Stirling Macedonia and Floreat Athena. He was transferred to NSL side West Adelaide in 1992, and then signed by West Ham for a fee of £300,000 in 1995. After four seasons with the Hammers he joined Birmingham City in a £1.7 million deal, being a key player in their return to the English Premier League in 2002. He returned to WA in 2006 to join Perth Glory, but injury restricted his appearances and he retired in 2008. He took part in four World Cup campaigns and was a squad member for the 2006 finals in Germany. He also took part in the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. Stan joins four other WA players to be included in the national Hall of Fame — Gary Marocchi, Robbie Dunn, Robbie Zabica and Ron Adair. Non-players from WA who have been inducted into the FFA Hall of Fame are: referee Eddie Lennie, administrators Julius Re and Harry Croft, and Bob McShane, who was a referee, trainer, administrator and all-round icon.

Robert Zabica & Robbie Dunn at the Reception

World Cup Wonders

The Committee of the Football Hall of Fame staged a World Cup exhibition in the Perth Town Hall last May/June to coincide with the 2010 FIFA championship in South Africa. Called "World Cup Wonders", the exhibition was a celebration of Australia's involvement in the event — and also highlighted the contribution made by players from Western Australia. Over 20 players with WA links had taken part in World Cup qualifying games since Australia first attempted qualification in 1965. A record number of five West Australians were included in the squad for the 2010 finals — and two of them, Richard Garcia and Nikita Rukavytsya, enjoyed some game time. They were the first players from WA to play in World Cup finals matches. The exhibition also detailed the history of the World Cup, with posters and other items from all the finals since the first in 1930. The week-long display attracted visitors from many parts of Australia and also football fans from other countries, such as Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ireland, England, Scotland, Cambodia, Taiwan, China, Nepal, Rumania, Poland, New Zealand, Singapore South Africa and Nigeria, who happened to be either studying or on holidays in Perth at the time. A smaller version of the exhibition was then displayed at the City of Perth Library. The Hall of Fame Committee also hosted a Cocktail Reception at the Perth Town Hall when scrolls were presented to some of the West Australians who had taken part in World Cup campaigns. Presentations were also made to WA female players who had represented Australia in the FIFA Women's World Cup. An historic live radio broadcast of the Cocktail Reception was beamed to Ghana, one of Australia's World Cup opponents. It was the first time there had a radio link with the African country from Perth for a football function.

Welcome to Roger

Roger Males has joined the Committee of the Football Hall of Fame WA. He brings great experience and knowledge of the local game to the Committee, having been CEO of the peak amateur body, the WA Amateur Social Soccer Association, from 1990 to 1994. Roger was also secretary of Manning Rovers for several years and he was instrumental in the foundation of Curtin University SC in 1980. He was also team manager of the State amateur teams that toured Malaysia and Singapore in 1980-89. Roger is a life member of WAASSA and was inducted into the Hall of Fame's Hall of Recognition in 2008. The other Football Hall of Fame Committee members are: Chairman: Louis Prospero. Treasurer: Bob Brown. Secretary: Barbara Gibson. Other members: John O'Connell, Peter Dimopoulos, Richard Kreider, Mel Moffat. Patron: Julian Burt.

Vale Malcolm, Peter and Willie

Since the last issue of The Fame Game, two well-known WA football identities have passed away — Malcolm Brown and Willie Rutherford. Malcolm brought tears to the eyes of many when he was inducted into the Hall of Recognition category at the last Hall of Fame ceremony in July, 2008. He overcame a serious illness to turn up on the night and accept his award from then Football West Chairman Kevin Campbell. Sadly, Malcolm has since died, at the age of 79. Born in Scotland, he excelled at football and was also a noted runner, taking part in several professional sprint events. He arrived in WA in the late 1960's and had a spell as State Director of Coaching. He also coached Perth Azzurri, leading them to the Night Series title and the D'Orsogna Cup. He also had stints with Kingsway Olympic, Cracovia and Inglewood as well as the State Under-18 team. In 1998 he was awarded the WA Junior Coach of the Year accolade.

Willie Rutherford was also born in Scotland and played for East Fife and Forfar before emigrating to Australia in 1969. An explosive winger, he turned out six times for the Socceroos and played for Sydney Hakoah. He headed to WA in the late 1970's and turned out for several clubs, including Perth Azzurri, Forrestfield United, Spearwood Dalmatinac and Stirling Macedonia. Willie died last October, aged 65.

Peter Loader, who died in mid-March at the age of 81, was a former Vice-President of the Soccer Federation of WA. He was deputy for a while to Julius Re. Peter was a former England Test cricketer and was also President of the WA Golf Association for many years.

Your nominees wanted

If you want to make a nomination for possible induction into the Football Hall of Fame WA there are three categories to consider. They are the Hall of Champions, the Hall of Merit for Players and the Hall of Recognition. The Hall of Champions is the elite category — and, as such, has a tough criteria. It salutes the achievements of outstanding male or female players who have made a major impact on WA football — or WA players who have been successful at national league level or in overseas leagues. Nominees must have played at Australian representative level , or State representative level or a similar high standard. They must have won one of the following: A national league title, a State league championship, a Cup competition, an individual award such as Fairest and Best or top scorer — or gained some other award of distinction. The nominees must have either been born in WA, raised in WA or played in WA for a minimum of three seasons. The Hall of Merit for Players was introduced in 2008 in order to honour those male or female players who gained considerable success but may have been prevented from reaching a higher standard because of limited opportunities (such as fewer State games) or serious injury. They must obviously have still made a significant impact on the game. The Hall of Recognition hails the achievements of male or female administrators, coaches, referees, sponsors, media or others who have made a telling contribution to WA football. The nominees in this category may still be actively involved in the game, but nominees in the playing categories must have retired from the professional side of the game for three years. The Committee of the Football Hall of Fame reserves the right to have the final say on all nominees. The next induction night in the Hall of Fame is in November, 2011, but nominations must be forwarded to any member of the Committee no later than May 31.

•Nomination forms can be obtained from the Football West website — www.footballwest.com.au

A touch of Ted's verse

Ted Gray, the 'Lord Byron' of football, is still up to his old poetic tricks. He used to delight many in the game in Western Australia with his humour and wordsmith abilities when he was executive director of the Soccer Federation of WA for over two decades. A supreme contributor to the sport in WA with his administrative skills — and a dedicated hard worker — Ted was inducted into the Hall of Recognition in 2002.

He now lives in NSW with his wife Iris, but keeps in touch with WA happenings. We recently received this piece of touching verse — mainly paying tribute to the late David Woodfin, Dave Brady, Reg Davies and Derek McKay — from the old master:

Thank you for The Fame Game
It's like a vintage wine
We really enjoyed it all
And it made us feel so fine

Expect of course those few
Who had crossed the bar
Every one to be remembered
And every one a star

David Woodfin was a wonder
A cry for help he heeded
And he would be available
When ever he was needed

Reg, Dave and Derek
Graced our game with skill
No matter how much time passes
They will be remembered still

I see names on the Committee
That I've known before
And when I look even closer
I can see there's even more

You're people who have given time
For The Game and the State
Thank you very much Committee
We think you're ruddy great

NEW MEN AT THE TOP

Two significant appointments have been made at the State's ruling body, Football West, since our last issue. Peter Hugg has succeeded Garry Chandler as Chief Executive Officer, while former politician Bob Kucera has taken over from Kevin Campbell as Chairman. Mr Hugg brings a wealth of top-level experience to the sport in WA, having worked as a General Coordinator for FIFA at the 2002 World Cup in Japan/Korea. He was also High Performance Manager with Soccer Australia (now Football Federation Australia) in 1996 and was Tournament Director for the Olympic Football Tournament at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney. Welsh-born Mr Kucera was previously Minister for Health and later Minister for Sport in the State Labour Government before retiring from politics in 2008. He was also formerly Assistant Commissioner of WA Police. He has been on the Board of Football West for almost two years and was elected in 2011 to succeed Mr Campbell, who stepped down after six years as Chairman.

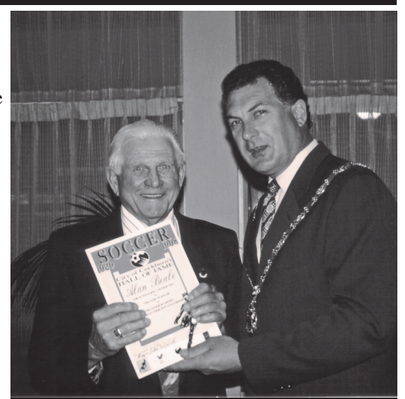
Barnes heading for Perth

Former England winger Peter Barnes is poised to come to Perth in August. The man who played for both Manchester City and United will be a special guest speaker at the Cup FInal Breakfast, scheduled to take place on August 19. Apart from the Manchester rivals, Barnes also played for Leeds, West Brom, Coventry and in Australia for Footscray JUST. Now 53, he is currently based in Kuala Lumpur and works as a pundit for Malaysian TV. The tradition of the Cup Final Breakfast was resurrected three years ago and has seen the likes of former FA Cup winner with Everton Mike Trebilcock and ex-Aston Villa, Forest and England striker Peter Withe attend as guest speakers. For more information contact organiser Ashley Morrison on 0418 907 478.

In honour of Alan Beale

Alan Beale is the latest WA football icon to have a medal name after him. The best player in the 2011 Charity Shield game between Perth SC and Stirling Lions was presented with the Alan Beale Medal. The presentation was made by Alan's son Brian, who said his father would have been ecstatic to have such an award named after him. "It's just amazing to see him recognisd like this — my dad was my hero," said Brian. Alan Beale, who was born in London, joined Spearwood Rovers as a 13-year-old and went on to have stunning success as a player, a coach and an administrator. He scored over 600 goals for Spearwood, including over 200 in the First Division. He played six times at State level for WA. The City of Cockburn named Beale Park in Spearwood in honour of Alan many years ago. He was a member of the inaugural Committee of the Football Hall of Fame WA — and was inducted into the Hall of Champions in 1996. Alan died in 2001, aged 79. Two of the Hall of Fame's Legends have also been honoured by the State's controlling body, Football West, by having medals named after them. Gary Marocchi, a former Australian captain, presented the Gary Marocchi Medal to the best player in the 2010 State League Grand Final and Robbie Dunn, one of WA's most capped Australian players, did the honours with the Robbie Dunn Medal for the best player in the 2011 Night Series Final.

•Want to keep up to date with all the happenings of Football West? It's easy. Just subscribe to the State body's new electronic magazine Beyond 90. Just go to the website — www.footballwest.com.au — and fill in your E-Mail details. The magazine is free...and it looks superb.



Alan Beale with Cockburn Mayor John Grljusich in 1998